THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH.

PITTSBURG, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1889.

WHERE CUPID LURKS

A Visit to That Mecca of Loving Hearts in the Court House Known as the

MARRIAGE LICENSE OFFICE.

Some Scenes and Incidents of Daily

HOW TO GET A PERMIT FOR MATRIMONY.

Allegheny County's Matrimonial Record-The Patient Marriage License Clerk-A Bridegroom's Search-The Usual Questions-Some Peculiar Replies-Didn't Know His Bride's Name-Her Father Was Not at Home-A Question of Supremacy-His Bluff Did Not Go-A White Woman's Reason for Marrying a Chinaman-How They Act When Taking Out a

(WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.)



The Olympian gods never realized the utility nor necessity of marriage licenses. Their successors, who meet biennially at Harrisburg, saw where Jupiter and his satellites had made a mistake, and therefore enacted a law making it a misdemeanor for loving hearts to be united in matrimony without first securing a permit

since the marriage license law went into effect in October, 1885, nearly 19,000 licenses have been issued in Allegheny county, thus giving 38,000 persons the privilege of solving for themselves the chestnutty problem, "Is marriage a failure." The returns are from a County Register. "Is marriage a failure." The returns are not all in, but the records of the divorce courts of the county show quite a number of affirmative answers, about 4 per cent of the number of the licenses issued. Marriage,



The Dispenser of Marriage Licenses. however, is not going out of fashion, plenty of men and maidens being willing to take happy 96 per cent.

If there is a patient man in this world it is Captain John Hieber, who is the official dispenser of marriage licenses for this county. All day long he is besieged by persons who insist upon being married, whether they can read their title's clear or not. Day after day the Captain explains the provisions of the law to the obstinate. the ignorant, the hot-tempered and the tear ful applicants.

BUNTING FOR A LICENSE. The marriage license office is located in

the southeast corner of the Court House, in a gallery overlooking the Register's Office. It is not a difficult place to find, yet the man who desires to play a leading role in a "a double life," almost invariably wanders into every other office in the building first. He naturally feels shy, unless he is a widower, when he makes the first mistake, but by the time he has struck the fourth or fifth office without finding the right place, he is so overcome with confusion that he is ready to apologize for his very existence. That is, unless he is a red-headed man, and he is generally mad enough to fight. the young couple go together after a license it is worse yet. More than one marriage which would have been annulled later for incompatibility of temperament has been arrested on the threshhold of the marriage license office, by the parties quarreling over which one was responsible for their wander-ings through the long corridors of the legal temple, and parting then and there because neither would assume the blame.

Once in the marriage license office the applicants feel that their troubles are over, but they are sometimes mistaken. They feel as-sured that a man of Captain Hieber's mild appearance will not refuse to crown their happiness. But the Captain won his title on many hard-fought fields of battle, and is as ready at the call of duty to face the flashing batteries of bright eyes, albeit some of them are very pretty, as he was to charge upon ering bayonets of the Confed



Taking the Oath.

rather pointed, and all to the purpose. These being answered satisfactorily and the answers sworn to, the license is forthcoming. The question of age is put first. It bride and groom both confess to being 21 years old, the worst part is over. If one is under age, the parents or legal guardian must first ent to the marriage.

A DELICATE QUESTION. "Have you ever been married before?" is an awkward query to put to a young and prepossessing lady, and is generally an-awered in the negative with a decided toss of the head. But it is part of the formula, of the head. But it is part of the formula, and has to be answered by both parties. If the answer is in the affirmative, then the question is asked, "How was the marriage dissolved; by death or divorce?" Some peculiar answers are given to this query. There are many men and women who be-

lieve, and act upon the belief, that if their aforetime partners have deserted them and married again in defiance of the law, they, themselves are freed from the chafing bonds. There are also many who think that the willful absence of the sharer of their bed and board is equivalent to a divorce. This is a mistake. Desertion for two years or more is sufficient grounds for a divorce, but a decree must be obtained before another marriage is consummated.

a decree must be obtained before snother marriage is consummated.

The questions of age and previous marital conditions are the two bard spots. The other queries relate to birthplace, and are of comparatively little importance. If the groom goes alone for the license he must be able to answer all the questions on behalf of his bride. Many young men do not know the date and place of the young lady's birth, and that generally results in a postponement of the wedding. It is on record that one applicant did not know his bride's surname. "I always call her Mamie," he said. name. "I always call her Mamie," he said. He knew more when he came back next day. It is not an uncommon thing for ap-plicants to be unable to give the date of



Signing the Record.

their birth, many of them merely approximating their age, as "past 30." So long as their appearance shows that they are more than 21 years old this ignorance does not impede their progress to matrimony.

HER FATHER WAS AWAY, An amusing case occurred recently. A young couple came after a license. The lady was only 20 years old, and was told that she must have her father's cousent.

She hesitated and then said: "My father

can't get out."
"Well," replied Captain Heiber, "take the blank consent to him, get him to fill it out, have a notary public swear him to it, and then bring it back." "Oh, he's not at home."

"Well, why not wait till he comes back. How long will he be away?" "Oh, for nearly six months. We don't want to wait that long."

On another occasion a stern-visaged woman came to the office to give her consent to her daughter's marriage. The clerk asked the girl if her father was living, and she said he was. She was told that the old gentleman must give his consent, as he was the head of

"Oh, that's all right," interposed the mother. "I run the house. Whatever I say my husband agrees to, and he'd better,

It took some time to persuade the woman that she could not run the Commonwealth, and the next day the old gentleman was produced and meekly gave his consent, but is a manner which showed he felt flattered by the consideration paid him by the great

My Dear Mr. Depow:

An evidence of superlative cheek was passes, but if I could get an annual pass, good Hallow Eventide. given by a young man from Troy Hill who wanted to marry the daughter of a neighbor who objected to the match. A license was rejused because the lady was under age, and the young man tried to bluff the stern parent into consenting. He asked the old man to accompany him to the Court House to help him transact some legal business. The old gentleman agreed, al-though it was a stormy day, and the two finally reached the marriage license office in

The young man called the clerk aside and said: "Here's the father of the girl I want to marry. He'll give his consent." A HITCH IN THE PROCEEDINGS.

The clerk made out the proper papers and calling the old man up, asked: "Do you consent to the marriage of your daugh- The Old Man Couldn't Even be Deceived by ter with this young man?'

"Do you consent to the marriage of your daughter to this man?"
"Who-me? What do you mean?"

Then it dawned upon the old man that he had been tooled. The young man had a start of a few feet, and he kept it down the corridor and out of the building, when both were lost to view.

It is not an uncommon thing for white

women to marry colored men, and aithough the officials scan these cases closely they us-ually obtain a license, as there is no law in this State against miscegenation. On one occasion a white woman and a Chinaman applied for a license. The woman was asked if she did not think she was making a mistake, but replied that she knew the bridegroom was industrious and would sup-port his wife, while she had known many idle, worthless Caucasians. Her argument

Under the marriage license law self or common law marriages are permissible. The parties sign a paper very similar to the or-dinary marriage license, their signatures are attested by two witnesses, a fee of 50 cents is paid, and the couple are legally married. This is not often done, as most people feel that marriage is a religious ordinance, which should receive the sanction of the Church.

It is quite a pretty sight to see a young couple in the marriage license office. The pretty bride—and all brides are beautiful—teels, or acts as if she feels, a little timid. She is not accustomed to legal procedures,

and is not quite sure but she may be ruth-lessly torn away from her gallant lover. To prevent this she clings closely to his side. THE DREAD ORDEAL. The clerk picks up a blank in a cold, prosaic manner, and the girl wonders if he realizes that "John and I are to be married?" The clerk asks the usual questions. The lady is usually ready with her answers, although she protests with her eyes at the impertinence of the law, and often prompts the bridgeroom when he forgets whether he was born in the United States or in Asia Minor. Then they have to sign the record. The lady generally takes off her gloves, and thereby shows her engagement ring. After affixing her signature she looks atticritically, apparently wondering whether she will like her new name better, and if it will take her look to learn to write it. Beat to learn to write it. will take her long to learn to write it. Both

will take her long to learn to write it. Both hold up their right hands while they are sworn to their statements. John pays half a dollar, puts the precious paper in his breast pocket, and the couple depart. Ten to one, before the office door closes you hear a suppressed giggle and an injunction to John not to less the license.

Occasionally John doesn't have 50 cents, and has to borrow from the lady. More than once the happy groom has had to leave his bride in the office while he went out to skirmish for the fee.

skirmish for the fee.

A peculiar thing about people who are about to get married is that most of them object to having their names published in the daily list. The reasons they give are various. One man works in a mill, and he doesn't want his fellow-workmen to plague him. Another man had a grown-up daugh-ter, and she might make things unpleasant, A widow did not want her first husband's family to know she was remarrying, and s

TE WAS UNCOMMON. One aristocrat from the Pacific Slope was very frank. He didn't want his name published among the plebeian cognomens of "common people." By a peculiar freak of fate, his name appeared in the newspapers the next morning sandwiched between the names of two Hungarians, and as the latter could not read English, they did not object. Bribery is sometimes attempted to prevent publication, but without effect, as the officials at once suspect something is wrong, and therefore endeavor to give wide publicity to the names on the license. In cases where there have been recent deaths cases where there have been recent deaths

in the family, or where there are other cogent reasons, the names are omitted from the list given out for publication.

Making false statements to the Marriage
License Clerk for the purpose of obtaining a license constitutes perjury, and is severely punished. Several cases have already oc-curred, and have always been vigorously pushed by Register Conner and his prede-

cessor, Register Hoerr.

There is always a great rush for licenses a day or two before Easter, the Fourth of July. Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years', but the latter has a little the best of the many parameters. it, many persons apparently feeling that it is good to enter upon a new life with the new year.

The old adage that "lovers are supersti-

tions" is strikingly illustrated in the mar-riage license office. Very rarely is a license taken out on that ill-omened day—Friday. JENES.

The Difference Between the Two Classes

ROMANCE AND NOVEL.

was composed by the trouveres or troubadours in Romaic dialects. It was originally poetic in form and is still poetic in substance. The modern novel is a development of the novella or nouvelle of the Italian, Spanish and French literatures of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and may be traced back to the fabliaux of the old Provencal poets. The romance deals with great characters and extraordinary events. The novel proper is confined to a lower plane, and is strained in its action by con-siderations of probability. These definitions are more general than precise; but they will serve, perhaps, to indicate plainly enough, though roughly, the differences we have in view. In point of fact, many works of fiction partake in part of the nature of the romance and in part of that of the novel.

There is no reason why a romance should not be, in a certain sense, realistic. We suppose that most readers would class "Robinson Crusoe" as a romance; but we know of no work in which the imagination know of no work in which the imagination is at once more free and more sober. It is not a story of common life; but its whole movement is suggested and defended by probability. Crusoe is never placed beyond our comprehension or our sympathy. He is always natural and always human. In the "Arabian Nights" we find genuinely human men and women, and we recognize the universal motives of humanity in their conduct; but the mechanism of the mentioners employed is largely but the machinery employed is largely magical and supernatural.

W. L. SCOTT AFTER A PASS.

He Might Be Able to Do Depew a Good Turn in Congress.

When the letters asking Chauncey M. Depew for railroad passes were published awhile ago one from W. L. Scott, the Democratic leader and friend of Grover Cleveland, was overlooked. This is the way

ERIE, PA., September 25, 1886.

until January 1, over the New York Central Rallroad—and it would suit me better if I could get it from New York to Erie—in favor of Harry Butterfield, it would be of great ad-vantage to me in my fight here in this district; and, although you are a Republican and I am a Democrat, we do not differ much in regard to Democrat, we do not diner much in regard to our views in connection with corporate prop-erty, and I may be able to serve these interests should I pull through again. I am sure the pass would be used three times between now and January I. Yours truly, W. L. Scott.

Mr. Scott got the pass, but the records of the House will have to be examined to ascertain whether he voted "all right" when corpora tion interests were involved as he promised

A VERDANT YOUTH.

French Polish. Youth's Companion.

"That young man is terr'ble green," said farmer, who did not admire the airs of a neighbor's son, just returned home after a year's post-graduate study in France. "Why, pa, I don't see how you can cal him green!" said the farmer's daughter. "Such a splendidly educated young man and he's been in Paris, too!"

you never heard of such a thing as Paris



Lawyer Switzer-Call a messenger, Rich



Lightning Charley (ten seconds later)—Sorry to be late, boss, but some gravel got in th' tube, an' I rasped a little comm' round th' corners.—Puck.

FOR ALL HALLOWEEN

A Day of General Merriment, Feasting, Dancing and Visiting in

THE ANCIENT CITY OF MEXICO. Commencing the Fun With the First Appearance of Dawn.

GAY NIGHT SCENES ON THE PLAZAS

ICORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.] CITY OF MEXICO, October 24 .- Of all the many feasts and festivals celebrated by the Mexicans, there is none which they observe more universally, and hail with greater joy, than that of October 31, or All Hallow Even -commonly contracted to Hollow Evewhich falls this year on next Thursday. It is the commencement of a period of merriment and festivity, which continues for three days, and is participated in by all classes of the people. So eagerly do they long for its approach, that, unable to wait until evening, they commence their celebration at day-

Any stranger going abroad after sunrise would know at once that it was a holiday. The Difference Between the Two Classes of Imaginative Works.

New Orieans Pleayane.]

There is a clear distinction between those works of the imagination known respectively as the romance and the novel. The romance owes its name to the fact that it the control of the pleasures they are anticipating. No Persian ever paid more respectful obeigness or attention to that great planet. obeisance or attention to that great planet, the sun, than do the Mexicans. No sooner does he send a few scattered threads of light over the twin towers of the great cathedral, than countless groups of worthy citizens, who are making holiday because to-night will be Hallow Eve, assemble in the Alameda and the Plaza Mayor, the two great public pleasure grounds of the capital, to bask in his beams. The fact that Hallow Eve was intended by the church as a vigil preceding tended by the church as a vigil preceding All Hallowmas or All Saints' Day is en-tirely lost sight of. How to crowd the greatest amount of enjoyment into the hours of festivity is the appermost thought in the

SOME TYPICAL GROUPS. Many of these groups are strikingly pic-

turesque and would be a fine study for an artist in figure painting. They include all classes of society. Here a knot of high-spirited blades are chatting over the last spirited blades are chatting over the last robbery. They are arranging operations for the night, when they anticipate a rich harvest during the absence of the many householders who will celebrate Hallow Eve away from home, and they are discussing the possibility of winning to their purpose some frail sereno (night policeman), whose co-operation may be necessary, or whom it may be desirable to have opportunely seized by an unconquerable lethargy at a given time and place. Mexican criminals are among the shrewdest and most expert in the world, and, though the police of this city world, and, though the police of this city deserve great credit for the fidelity with which they perform their duties, robberies are of frequent occurrence, especially at

But a short distance from these gentry are a half dozen officers of the army, dis-cussing the merits of their cigars and their horses, and laying plans for a merry Hallow Eve. Just beyond them a group of thin, sallow, disappointed looking men are are heaping anathemas upon the President and his ministers because they have failed to recognize their merits and to give them an opportunity to fatten at the public crib.
But even these finally agree that
this is not the time to discuss their
wrongs, and that only pleasure and

Groups of lechuginos (dudes) saunter down the flagways to the common center, where prosperous and substantial fathers of families assemble in groups to hear and communicate news. The fair sex, ever kind hearted and prepossessing, grace and animate the scene with their presence. If you will strain your neck a little and take in at one view the Calles de Esperitu Santo and Plateros, you will see the graceful forms of

MEXICO'S FAIREST DAUGHTERS. supported and watched in the rear by prusupported and watched in the rear by pru-dent mothers, who well know the wily ambush prepared for their offspring by the crowds of young fops and ancient idlers who lie in wait for their passage. The blue robozos of the women and the red serapes and white duck trousers of the men, who are vending their wares in the adjoining flower market, fill in with bits of bright color such a picture as you can never hope to see else-

Both plazas are crowded with verduleras (hawkers), who are vending every imaginable species of holiday edibles and holiday wares, and filling the air with hoarse cries. Sombreros, elaborately trimmed with silver lace and ornamented with their owner's monogram in silver letters, flash in the light side by side with the glossy and more modern silk hat. Brilliantly-colored handker-chiefs on the heads of manolas (young women) contrast prettily with the black lace adorning the graceful polls of the muchachas (young ladies of the upper class). Seemingly one of the most philosophical observer of this varied scene is an enormous hog, boxed up in a corner of the Plaza Mayor and flanked by a shed where he is put up to be raffled for at a medio (61/4

cents) per ticket.

Even the snimal creation is well represented in this motley throng which has turned out to keep holiday time. The burros-those invaluable little donkeys which play such an important part in Mexi-which play such an important part in Mexi-can life—enticed by the sunshine and the hope of picking up some salad leaves near the fountain, have taken advantage of the temporary absence of their masters, the arrieros (huckstersor earriers), who habitually leave them in the street untied, and have strolled down from various directions-pack on back-to nose their way through the crowd, which seems perfectly accustomed to this familiarity. A donkey is not looked upon as a nuisance in a Mexican throng. People step aside to let him pass, with as much politeness as they would show to a

As the day advances everybody begins to think about dining. A good dinner is as important a feature of the celebration of Hallow Eve in Mexico as it is of Thanks-giving Day in the States. Mexico, true to the Spanish customs introduced by Cortez, dines near the middle of the day, and when the great cathedral clock points to the hour of 1 it is a warning to all who have a din-ner waiting them at home to go and eat it, and to those who have none to set their wits

to work to obtain one.

Some plate-hunters try the effect of a lively anecdote as they accompany a prosperous householder homeward. Others in-vent a piece of news calculated to flatter his vanity. But the door is reached and there is no invitation—not even the freezing and always-to-be-refused, "Guste usted comer con miejo? (Do you wish to dine with

me)."
Then a happy thought strikes the Mexican Jeremy Diddler: "Well, I declare, Senor Sanchez, your conversation is so entertaining that here I have walked all the way home with you, and I have an engagement to dine with some young fellows at the Cale del Comercio! Oh, by the way, I have let my purse at home. Could you loan me a peso (dellar) or two till we meet?"

Senor Sancher's hand reluctantly draws out a bright silver dellar. "Tome usted (excuse my frankness)," says the sponge, as the decreate into his necessary and trans the decreate and the house next to that of County Commissioner Thomas J. Courser, in Webster, set a steel trap for muskrats last night. This morning Mr. Courser was aroused by the boy, who was shouting with great excitement:

"I've got him, Tom!"

Tom!" he drops it into his pocket and turns the

"Bah!" mutters Senor Sanchez to himself. "Better lose a dollar than have that tellow sitting at table with my wife and daugh-ters!" boy, who is so small that he couldn't lift his prize, is justly proud of his success as a GOING TO A BULL FIGHT.

The people have no sooner dined than the

street is filled with carriages, many of them as handsome and stylish in every respect as any to be seen in New York or London. The fashionable world is en route to the suburbs to attend the numerous bull fights there—a pastime now prohibited within the limits of the Federal district in which the capital is located—and to the theaters, every one of which gives a matinee in honor of the approaching Hallow Eve.

But the principal features of the Hallow E'en celebration are to be observed in the evening. Then the Plaza Mayor and the Plaza de la Constitution are brilliantly illuminated. This is in itself a wonderful treat to the inhabitants. Gas is a luxury here. Only a very few of the principal stores are lighted by it, oil and wax lights being much more generally used. The darkness of the streets is made visible by oil lanterns hung from wires stretched between the opposite buildings.

The tertulia, or circle of acquaintances, which is attached to almost every house in the capital, from the President's mansion to the humblest shop, is in its glory on Hollow

the capital, from the President's mansion to the humblest shop, is in its glory on Hollow Eve. Everybody who comes on that occasion is made welcome by the master and mistress of the house. The room is soon filled, and the scene becomes animated. Marriages that have just taken place, those probable and those only talked of, supply a considerable part of the conversation, for here it is not considered at all indelicate for young ladies to talk of that which is every where their only hope of figuring in society, and which naturally occupies most of their and which naturally occupies most of their attention. Dissimulation in this matter is better taught farther north.

AN EVENING DANCE.

Two fiddles and a cornet now set a considerable number of legs to whirling about in a waltz and bumping against the spectators. There is one young saltero (bachelor) with fully 15,000 pesos (dollars) a year, who seems to take pleasure in getting in the way of the waltzers, and who is proof against the witching smiles of all the marriageable girls who are trying to entice him riageable girls who are trying to entice him to dance with them, some even keeping themselves disengaged in the hope that he may relent in their favor, and "Que buenas rentas tiene (what good rents he has)!" exclaimed the mammas. "The best match in town!"

town!"

"It is very odd he doesn't marry. He was slightly entangled for a time with my Anita, but like an eel he slipped away in a twinkling. He is a sly fox."

"All the men are becoming consummate egotists. They merely want to dance with our daughters to pass away the time. I am out of patience with them! A good marriage is now as rare as a thin alcalde (magistrate)!"

Many more waltzes and dances follow the first, until at length the fiddles and cornet stop short, thereby rousing a sleepy specta-tor who looks at his watch and says it is stop short, thereby rousing a sleepy spectator who looks at his watch and says it is
1 o'clock in the morning. Alarmed for the
fresh looks of their daughters, the worthy
mammas hurry them off to home and bed,
all declaring loudly that they have spent a
most delightful Hallow Eve, and all looking forward with eager anticipations to resuming their festive pleasures on the morrow, which will be All Hallowmas or All
Saints' Day.

FRANK FERN.

THE KING'S MANOR HOUSE.

Ancient York. Hichard Wheatly in November Harper's.]

One of the checkered, ivy-grown bits of old York as it was under the Tudors and Stuarts is the King's manor house, which is in part the building where the wealthy abbots of St. Mary's dispensed princely hospitality. Little of the abbatial palace remains except the wide and heavy staircase.
Here successive monarchs were received,
and here Charles II. held Parliament.
Now, after instructive vicissitudes, it is a
school for the blind; and, as such, the county memorial of the immortal philanthropist William Wilberforce. Sixty blind children here receive education and instruction in useful handicrafts. Quadrangular of form, and of architecture in which the Jacobean predominates, it is warningly suggestive of coughs, colds, and rheumatisms, which, strange to say, are not there in unusual number. Royal and noble coats of arms, which task all the pedantry of heralds to explain, adorn the principal entrances and

some of the rooms.

The United States are graciously repre sented here by raised and dissected maps, books in the Boston raised and in the New York point type, and writing guides, pre-sented by the American Printing House for the Blind, at Louisville, Kentucky; wool-work articles and books presented by Mr. Anagnos, Superintendent of the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the blind; and by a pathetic lace collar worked by the deaf, dumb and blind Laura Bridg-man. All these lent added interest to the jubilee of the institution in 1883.

One of the many historic rooms-now used one of the many historic rooms—now used as a dormitory for blind boys—that display the taste and magnificence of the builders contains a curiously grotesque Tudor fireplace still intact. This was Lord Huntingdon's room, and "is probably the place in which Strafford held his Court of Starbachters."

ONE WAY TO FIND OUT. Mr. Peters' Way of Ascertaining What Pince He Was Visiting.

Young Mr. Brown one day invited friend in Boston to go with him to the country next day, to pay a visit to his native

"We can go to-morrow and spend our vacation in my native place," said he. "My old aunt keeps the house my father left me, and if you're agreed 1'll just telegraph the dear old lady to look out for us. We'll have some fine fishing."

Mr. Peters accepted the invitation, and Mr. Brown rushed away to telegraph to his aunt. When Peters went to his boarding house that night he told his landlady that

house that night he told his landlady that he was going with Brown to-his native

place.
"What place is it?" she asked.
"Why, I don't know, I declare!" laughed
Peters. "I never thought to ask." A messenger boy soon after brought a note from Mr. Brown. He wished Mr. Peters to meet him at the Eastern station next morning at 10 o'clock. Business would prevent his seeing Peters until they met at the station, ready for the journey.

Mr. Peters went to the Eastern station a few minutes before the appointed hour. Mr. Brown met him.

"Come, hurry!" be cried. "Our train starts in three minutes. This is the car. Get in I have our tickets."

Get in, I have our tickets." Mr. Peters got into the car, and had a pleasant journey of two hours. That night he wrote this letter to his friend White in

DEAR DICK-I arrived safely in Brown's native place about noon. It's a very pleasant place. There was no signboard on the station. Write me at once and tell me what the postmark is on this letter. Yours, J. PETERS.

A SURPRISED YOUNG TRAPPER. A Boy Who Captured an Animal Bigger Than He Could Lift.

Concord (N. H.) Monitor.]

George Bourassa, a 6-year-old boy who lives in the house next to that of County

om!"
"Got what?" said Mr. Courser.
"I don't know what it is, but I've got It turned out that the boy had caught a coon, which weighed 23%, pounds, and had pounded it to death with an iron hook. The JOSHUA

A STORY OF THE EXODUS.

By Georg Ebers, Author of "UARDA," "SERAPIS," Etc.

(NOW FIRST PUBLISHED.)

The story opens with the death of the first-born of Egypt. The Egyptians, frenzied by the great calamity that has overtaken them, descend upon the Hebrew quarter with intent to alay all of that race in their midst, to whom they attribute their troubles. One man is found and stoned to death, the other houses being deupon the Hebrew quarter with intent to slay all of that race in their midst, to whom they attribute their troubles. One man is found and stoned to death, the other houses being de-serted by their occupants. Hornecht, Captain of Pharaoh's bowmen, passed by the ruins of the Hebrew village, and in rescuing some cats, held sacred by the Egyptians, discovers the un-conscious form of Ephraim, a Hebrew youth, who was the bearer of a measure from Miram who was the bearer of a message from Miriam to his uncle Joshus, a Captain in Pharach's army and a warm friend of Hornecht. The latter has a widowed daughter, Kasana, who was compelled by her father to marry an Egyptian while loving Joshua. Joshua had just returned from a long campaign, and knew little of what had transpired among his people. He was satisfied with his position, which was one of honor. He has determined within himself to stay with the Egyptians, when Ephraim delivers his message from Miriam, the prophetess calling upon Joshua to lead his people out of

CHAPTER VL.

to come back for her when she had done her duty to her parents to the very last."
And turning to the girl she said in au encouraging tone: "And it cannot be for much longer now."

At this Hoglah began to wipe her eyes with the skirt of her blue gown and orled: "Long, long may it be! I am young. I can wait." the granddaughter slave, Eliab, had come t Joshua to go with her forthwith to see her grandfather, whose strength had suddenly failed him, and who, feeling death near at hand, could not die without seeing him and blessing him once more. So the OGLAH, the granddaughter of the old slave, Eliab, had come to entrest Joshua to go with her forthwith to see once more. So the

Captain bade her wait, and after assuring himself that Ephraim slept peacefully, he charged a man he could trust to keep watch over the lad. lah. As she led the way she carried a smal lantern, and when the light fell on the

lantern, and when the light fell on the girl's face and figure, he saw how ill-favored she was, for slave's toil had bent the poor child's back before its time. Her voice had the rough tones which a woman's tongue often acquires when her strength is too unsparingly taxed; but all she said was loving and kind, and Joshua forgot her appearance as she told him that she had a lover among the men who had gone forth, but that she had remained behind with her grandparents, for she could not bring herself to leave the old tolks alone; that as she was not fair to look upon, no man had coveted her as his wife till Asser had come, and he did not look to appearances, because he was hardworking, as she herself was, and had expected that she would help to save his earnings. He would have been willing to atsybehind with her, but his father had commanded him to set out with him; so he had no choice, but must obey and part from her no choice, but must obey and part from her

accent, but it struck to the heart of the

man who, for his part, meant to go his own way in opposition to his father.

As they presently came in sight of the harbor, and Joshua looked down on the quays and the huge fortified. quays and the huge fortified storehouses quays and the huge fortified storehouses, built by the hands of his own people, he thought once more of the ragged troops of laborers whom he had so often seen cringing before the Egyptian overseer, or again, fighting madly among themselves. He had marked, too, that they did not hesitate to lie and cheat in order to escape their toil, and how hard it was to compel them to obey and do their date.

and how hard it was to compel them to obey and do their duty.

The more odious objects among these hapless hundreds rose clearly before his mind, and the thought that perhaps his fate in the future might be to lead such a wretched crew came over him as a disgrace which the humblest of his subalterns, the Captain of 50, would fain be spared. There were, of course among the percensive of Pharsch's



deed, did not attract him to them. But the wrath of the clear-sighted and upright man was soon appeased as he saw the girl's unfelgned delight at her grandfather's rapid recovery; and he then learned from the aged wife that Hoglah had hardly set out on her quest when they remembered that they had some wine in the house, and after the first draught her husband got better and better, though she had before thought he had one foot already in the grave. Now he was mixing some more of the blessed gift to strengthen himself with a draught of it every now and then.

Here the old man himself broke in, and said that he owed this and much that was better to the goodness of Nun, Joshua's

onvictions.
At this the old man tried to come to his

At this the old man tried to come to his wife's rescue, saying, timidly:

"Nay, my lord, tongue cannot tell of it, nor the understanding conceive of it. It came upon Israel from the Lord, and even if I could describe how mightily He worked in the souls of the people—."

"Try," said Joshua, "but my time is short. Then they were forced to depart? It was against their will that they took up their staff? That they have followed Moses and Aaron for some time past, as sheep follow the shepherd, is known even to the Egyp-



tians. And have those men, who br

tians. And have those men, who brought down the pestilence on so many innocent beings, worked a miracle to blind the eyes of you and your wife here?"

The old man lifted supplicating bands to the warrior, and replied, much troubled, in a tone of humble entreaty: "Oh, my lord, you are the first-born son of my master, the greatest and noblest of his house, and if you will you can tread me in the dust like a beetle; and yet will I lift up my voice and say to you they have told you falsely. You have been among strangers all this year while mighty signs have been wrought upon us. You were far from Zoan* as I have heard when the people went forth



HE KISSED THE SOLDIER'S ARM AND CLOTHING AGAIN AND AGAIN.

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